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POLAND READING SATELLITE  
IN VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL

STATE INSTITUTE OF HYGIENE CONDUCTS TESTS -- Dziennik Lodzki, No 73, 14 Mar 50

One of the many functions of the PIH (State Institute of Hygiene) in Lodz is to conduct bacteriological tests. Important work is done here in connection with the program for controlling venereal diseases. Samples of blood and spinal fluid taken from clinical out patients are constantly being sent from all parts of Lodz Wojewodztwo and Lodz City to the PIH.

The blood is first tested for the Khedyak reaction, then the Wasserman reaction, and the flocculation test. In 1949, in 260,000 tests for the Khedyak reaction, one percent of the results were positive. In 62,000 Wasserman tests 0.6 percent of the results confirmed those obtained by the Khedyak reaction. Persons found infected with syphilis were subjected to compulsory treatment.

Another disease prevalent in Lodz is typhoid fever. PIH attempts to detect carriers. Until three tests show absence of infection, each case is under the surveillance of health authorities. Under no circumstances may an infected person work in places handling food. Lodz Wojewodztwo had 667 cases of typhoid fever in 1949, of which 151 were found to be carriers.

The bacteriological division of PIH also conducts virus tests on bacteria. Herpetic fever virus is so small that it can be seen only under an electronic microscope. By means of experiments, it has already been possible to isolate four types of herpetic fever virus.

Biological tests for tubercular infection are also being conducted by PIH. Close cooperation exists between PIH and the Children's Clinic in this field. Observations are being made on children who have been cured of tubercular meningitis by means of streptomycin.

Scientific experiments on influenza are conducted on a wide scale, since in recent years this disease has reached almost epidemic proportions in certain seasons of the year.

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CZECH VENEREOLOGISTS STUDY POLISH PROGRAM -- Dziennik Polski, No 76, 18 Mar 50

Since Poland was the first country to open a large-scale antivenereal program, Doctors Leopold Holcik, Jan Lochovsky, and Bohumil Docekal have arrived in Poland from Czechoslovakia to study the results of this program. Czechoslovakia is just beginning its large-scale battle against venereal disease. Up to now, Czechoslovak penicillin factories have produced only the type of penicillin to be used for hospitalized cases but not for out patients.

In Poland, mass examinations and treatment of venereal diseases with penicillin have given good results. The visit of the Czechoslovak physicians may be considered the beginning of permanent contact between Czechoslovak and Polish medical men. In June 1950, a venereologists' congress will be held in Poznan to discuss results obtained from penicillin treatment of venereal diseases. In 1951, a similar congress will be held in Czechoslovakia.

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